

TOP SECRETVIA AIR
(Specify Air or Sea Pouch)DISPATCH NO. EZZA-102110202
CLASSIFICATION**8 SEP 1956**DATE 155511

25X1A

TO Headquarters

DOCUMENT NO. 155511
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐
☐ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS 6
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 8-1-06
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 8-1-86 REVIEWER: 100368

FROM Chief of Station, [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT { GENERAL Operations
SPECIFIC [REDACTED] 1108)

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Mission 1108 was flown by [REDACTED] on 6 September 1956 in [REDACTED]. Special equipment consisted of [REDACTED]. Duration of the flight was eight (8) hours nineteen (19) minutes. Take off was three minutes late due to clearance delay.

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No problems were encountered in launching the mission. [REDACTED] reported satisfactory operation of the camera equipment and no malfunction was evident upon landing at [REDACTED]. No problems were involved in briefing or de-briefing of this mission. Cameras and allied equipment operated satisfactory with the exception of the counter on V-7 which stopped at 199 exposures and the R-6 magazine had a slight metering malfunction intermittently allowing excessive spacing between exposures, but this film was useable. The film clips from V-7, R-6 and L-8 confirm satisfactory camera operation. Unable to determine resolution or whether there is an frosting due to 7/8 to 8/8 coverage over critical area when cameras were turned off. The cameras operated the entire route of briefed mission having a total of 611 exposures and 1150 feet of film. The film clips were shipped with the film. Tracker film was excellent from visual inspection and photographic quality. The clock stopped at 1200 hours. The cause of the malfunction of the counter is unknown. The malfunction of the HM 731 magazine was caused by the binding of the metering roller at the hinge end. The cause of the tracker clock malfunction is unknown. Temperature believed to be a factor. The counter has been replaced to correct HM 731. The metering roller has been readjusted and a complete check of magazine has been accomplished. Tests show satisfactory operation. The clock has been replaced and tracker is again operational.

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The camera clock stopped at approximately 1205 and consequently camera times were not used in the production of the [REDACTED]. The route was overcast from [REDACTED] base to 4542N1350E. The route was clear from here to the target area and back to 4320N1710E where heavy cirrus obscured the next 82 miles of flight line. The overcast was again encountered at [REDACTED] and continued to the landing base. The maximum flight line deviation over the target was 2 miles and the [REDACTED] generally kept to within half a mile of the planned flight lines. Plotting time for this mission was 1 hour and 35 minutes.

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Electronics equipment operation was satisfactory with no malfunctions. There were no signals on the way in throughout the first penetration, likewise on the return trip. Signals were received over the target island although nothing unusual or particularly significant was noted. The original tape was copied and the original roll will be submitted for transmittal to headquarters by noon, 7 September.

The flight plan of this mission was off from the actual flight by approximately 30 minutes. Ground speeds throughout the mission were within 5 knots on reciprocal headings indicating that wind was not a factor in this differential of time. There was no major variation from briefed route. The possibilities which might account for this are: (1) temperatures much colder than those used for flight planning (-58°); (2) error in the air speed indicator; and (3) going from a low pressure area to a high pressure area that was not forecast or accounted for in the flight planning. Further investigation is being made to determine the cause or causes of this discrepancy.

Cameras and allied equipment operated satisfactorily with the exception of the counter on V-7 stopped at 199 exposures, and the R-6 magazine had a slight metering malfunction, intermittently allowing excessive spacing between exposures, but this film is useable. The film clips from V-7, R-6, and L-8 confirm satisfactory camera operation. Unable to determine resolution or whether there is any frosting due to 7/8 to 8/8 coverage over critical area when cameras were turned off. The cameras operated the entire route of briefed mission having a total of 611 exposures and 1150 feet of film. The film clips were shipped with the film.

Tracker film was excellent from visual inspection and photographic quality. The clock stopped at 1200 hours.

DISCUSSION: The cause of the malfunction of the counter is unknown. The malfunction of the HM 731 magazine was caused by the binding of the metering roller at the hinge end. The cause of the tracker clock malfunction is unknown. Maybe it was cold.

CONCLUSION: The counter has been replaced to correct HM-731. The metering roller has been readjusted and a complete check of magazine has been accomplished. Tests show satisfactory operation. ~~25X~~ The clock has been replaced, and the tracker is again operational.

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